



Public Notice

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Norfolk District

CENAO-TS-00

May 11, 2007

ATLANTIC INTRACOASTAL WATERWAY

DISMAL SWAMP CANAL

LAKE DRUMMOND RESERVATION

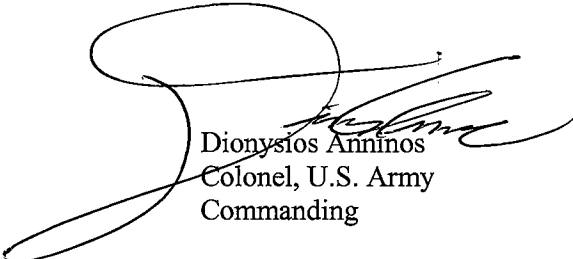
Effective June 17, 2007, the Lake Drummond Reservation on the Dismal Swamp Canal, Atlantic Intracoastal Waterway, will be closed to overnight camping. Since the Dismal Swamp Canal operating contractor is on site during daytime hours, the facility will still be available for day use between sunrise and sunset.

Congress has authorized and funded the Dismal Swamp Canal as a Navigation and Flood Damage Reduction Mission and has not authorized or funded it for Recreation purposes. Therefore, the Corps is not authorized or funded to operate the Lake Drummond Reservation as a camping area or hire a park ranger for that facility.

The facility will continue to be available during the day for boating, picnicking, fishing, and wildlife observation and photography. The tram will also be available, during daytime hours, for portaging limited-size watercraft from the Dismal Swamp Canal to Lake Drummond. Over the next few months, the Army Corps of Engineers will upgrade the safety features at Lake Drummond to enhance the day-use experience.

The Norfolk District of the Corps of Engineers conducted an assessment for each of the District's facilities that are open to the public to examine potential risks and liabilities to citizens as well as to the Federal government. The safety review determined that the Lake Drummond Reservation lacks the capability for responding to accidents/incidents during the nighttime. The remote location and difficulty in accessing the site, as well as no nighttime staffing on site make responding to emergencies very difficult. As a result, I have determined that closing the facility to all but day use is the responsible action to take.

Citizens wishing to comment on the provisions of this notice may do so by sending their comments to: Norfolk District USACE, Operations Branch, c/o Joel Scussel, 803 Front Street, Norfolk, VA 23510. Comments may be submitted electronically to joel.f.scussel@usace.army.mil.



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Commanding